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STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Department of Genetics

SEP 13 1971

Dr. Kenneth B. Clark
Psychology Dept.
CUNY, New York, N.Y. 10036

Dear Professor Clark

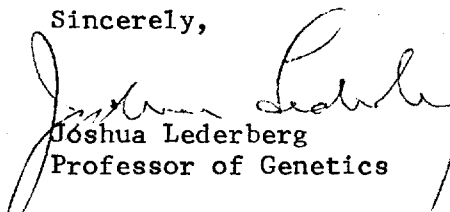
May I have the text of your address to the APA?

I should not comment at all on the basis of possibly unreliable press reports; but I may betimes have commented on a related idea (see enclosures). I asked myself, what would be an "ideal" biological warfare agent: obviously, a virus that induced a state of pure pacificism on the part of the 'enemy'. But just such an attack would be resisted to the death by every available weapon.

So I come to the paradoxical conclusion that any drug-panaceas we invent should be directed to the abolition of altruism (the appeal to which is undoubtedly the source of most of the mischief in the world). The drug we want would induce the utmost in selfish interest, which, to be sure might be optimized by rational enlightenment about meeting the other fellow's needs, to improve your own welfare in the long run.

Congratulations for stirring the pot with a wonderful metaphor. Your colleagues look all the more foolish for their excessive literalism, and their refusal to meet the essential issues you posed.

Sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

Do you recall our meeting
at a most improbable occasion--
a workshop for TV executives
at Asilomar, Pacific Grove, Calif.?

Genes 25, 122, 111